

Official match day programme of **Thanet Wanderers Rugby Union Football Club**

**THANET**

# WANDERERS

**v Cranbrook RFC** Saturday 14th October 2023. Kick off 3.00pm

www.thanetwanderers.co.uk

# THANET WANDERERS 1st XV



**THANET WANDERERS RUFC**

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## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

This afternoon we extend a big welcome to Cranbrook RFC and all Thanet Wanderers past players to the refurbished clubhouse, we hope you initially enjoy the luncheon and our hospitality and then experience some attractive rugby.

Last year this home fixture was postponed from September 10th until the 4th February due to rock hard pitches. After witnessing last weeks 3rd team's home game we could have been looking at a postponement this year, the only saving factor being that we have had a wetter Summer and there is some grass on the pitches despite a very dry September. At the time of submitting this article rain is forecast for Thursday & Friday.

Cranbrook RFC has enjoyed a reasonable amount of success during recent seasons. After knocking on the promotion door from 2016 onwards, promotion to the London Leagues was achieved by finishing second in Kent One in the 19/20 season. Cranbrook meanwhile finally achieved their promotion to the new Kent League One at the end of the 2021/22 season when they finished third in the top four who were well clear of the rest in London league 3 SE. They finished mid table last season.

This Counties 1 Kent League game could be a crucial one for both sides as after 4 games both teams languish at the bottom of the table with Cranbrook bottom and Thanet Wanderers one place above them. Thanet have conceded less match points than Cranbrook and have scored more points than their rivals today. Heathfield and Waldron are one place above with three losses and one draw, while above them sit Charlton Park and then Dover who both have one win in 4 games. So everything is to play for!! Today both teams are looking for their first League win of the 2023/2024 season and both will want to be pursuing bonus points. Based on the League seasons stats today's game should be a win for TWRUFC 15-11.

In the equivalent game last year, the man of the match was Louis Marshall who put in his usual wholehearted display, scored a try, tackled himself to a standstill and finished, as he started, with a smile on his face. If all of today's squad can replicate Louis's work rate and passion, we are sure to win!

Today's match officials are Lewis Franks for the men's game and Elly Cole for the ladies game. Both are representatives of the Kent Referees Society and we welcome them both to St Peters.

The Thanet Wanderers Ladies 1st XV are on a roll with victories last weekend against Lordswood 64-3 and the previous week against Southend RFC 53-17. The Ladies 2nd Team have so far only played one game this season and that was a resounding win over Maidstone RFC 43-0.

Something special happened in the 3rd XV game against Maidstone on the 16th September, three pairs of fathers are sons played together, Greg & Finn Shingles, Oskar & Bill Wallace and Ed & Tom Harvey. This may have happened before at St Peters but not without the unwitting participants knowing!!!! Congratulations to the fathers who have brought up Junior players and kept playing themselves, some feat.

The measure of any organisation is down to its members and how they all contribute to that organisation's character, its day to day running and the future of the organisation. History can show us plenty of examples of organisations that failed; Blockbuster, Yahoo!, Blackberry, Tie Rack, Bowkett's and remember MySpace, all these failed to move with the times or resisted change. There are a few Thanet Wanderers that have contributed to the Club's success who are no longer playing but have worked tirelessly and have gifted us a fantastic clubhouse and who have contributed to the enjoyment of playing for Thanet Wanderers. These are true Thanet Wanderers. The Playing Members of Thanet Wanderers (men, women & juniors), the Committee, the supporters and all the volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes and who need your support. The monthly newsletters are a great way to keep in touch, just sign up with social media or look at the website or become a member. There are a range of memberships such as Social Membership that costs £60 a year or you can become a Vice President (with voting rights) for £120 a year and both memberships give you a 10% discount at the bar. The financially savvy amongst you will have worked out that if you become a social member, after you've spent £600 behind the bar you're actually saving money !!

Please respect today's referees; I hope for a competitive and injury-free match and as ever, we are Wanderers, mighty, mighty Wanderers.

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Club President



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# FROM THE 1ST XV

# DEFENCE COACH

We're back at home! It's been a difficult couple of weeks for us as a team and for Wanderers fans. However, we are finally back at home for what is sure to be a fast and physical game against Cranbrook. The players have applied themselves well in training this week and selection was no easy task for us as a coaching team, what with five players making their first team debuts last Saturday. Among those were Owen Read and Oscar Wallace who have both been at the club since their days in the minis and they went onto the pitch with typical Wanderers pride and passion.

Team Culture has been a massive work on for us both on and off the pitch. Building a connection with the bigger club is very important to us and as a coaching team, we are incredibly proud of how well the players have taken to the new culture.

What a way to share today's match day with our ladies first team who also face a Cranbrook side when they play a ladies NC2 league game prior to the men's match. As fellow Wanderers we wish their squad the best of luck and we will be cheering them on from the sidelines. None of this would be possible without all the fans who pitch up every week at home or away, and as a playing squad and staff we are always very thankful for all their support. We will be hoping too please a home crowd who will be keen to see aggressive defence, exciting backs, strong forwards and most importantly a Wanderers win.

It's not over until we say it's over.

**Kieran Hopper**



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# MATCH REPORT

## Thanet Wanderers RUFC 25 – 28 Canterbury Pilgrims RFC

Narrow win for Canterbury after an enthralling game.

It was good to see James Green back in the Thanet front row to take on the club for whom he played on nearly 200 occasions. Joint captain, Nick Herbert, was a late withdrawal due to COVID-19, Charlie Panteli came in at ten and Henry Mirams was back on the left wing. Dennis Davies and debutant Will Mahoney were on the bench.

The Wanderers made a confident start and had the best of the early exchanges. It was no surprise when their pressure drew a penalty after just three minutes that Tom Walton despatched. The scrum-half made it 6-0 eight minutes later from close to the visitors' ten-metre line. Four minutes later a promising Canterbury attack was broken up and as they built again it was Walton who made a good interception just inside the opposition's half and then won the race to the line. His third successful kick gave Thanet a 13-0 lead. Canterbury regrouped and a strong drive took them over wide left for an unconverted try. Brett Scott's tackling was at its best today but a misjudgement from the restart resulted in a yellow card for Thanet's number eight. Canterbury scored their second try following a penalty that took them close to the try line before driving over for a converted try to trail by a point at 13-12. Walton's penalty attempt from distance went just wide before Wanderers conceded a disappointing third try when they attempted to play their way out of defence. Opportunities to clear the danger were lost and the Pilgrims scored an unconverted try wide right to take the lead at 13-17 as halftime neared..

Danny Clement started at Hooker in the second half as Mike Whitehead took a break. The Pilgrims started the second period at pace and Warren Riddell-Broomfield disrupted their drive well before Scott made a great carry and then led a drive for the line. As the game neared the hour mark, Canterbury secured their try

bonus point with a well-worked score that followed a wide-ranging handling movement. There was no conversion but the visitors led 22-13. Thanet's front five in the pack put in a wonderful shift today with Gully Goodall dominant at tighthead and Andy Letts, with second-row partner, Lenny Brown, was on imperious form. A great drive from Thanet's pack brought a well-deserved try for the eight and unsurprisingly it was Jimmy Green who claimed the try. Another fine conversion from Walton narrowed the deficit to 20-22. A strong battle for the next important points saw attack and counter-attack but as tiredness levels rose on a warm afternoon, a new kicker for the visitors slotted two penalties to draw eight points ahead. Thanet were determined not to end the day without a league point and in the final play of the afternoon, Panteli at ten, called for the ball and his pin-point accurate cross-kick was grabbed out wide left by Mirams whose dive for the line sealed a spectacular try from the last play of the game. No conversion, but the Wanderers had a losing bonus point to show for a good afternoon's work.

Wanderers' Coaches, Elliot Blackmore and Kieran Hopper praised the efforts of the team and particularly the performances of veterans Jimmy Green and Andy Letts whose fitness and relish for a contest are outstanding. Andy Dolan did well in the less familiar role of full-back and in the centre, the partnership of Adam Harrison and Max Rogers has developed into a potent force in defence and attack. Louis Marshall on the right wing didn't see as much of the ball as usual but was as effective as ever in defence. The return to the team of Sam Taylor, after a season missed through injury, has brought an impetus to the side where his motivation and leadership skills are a major asset. Thanks to today's referee Mr Simon Bingham for an assured performance.

**Colin Whiteley**







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## INCLUSION @ THE WANDERERS

As a club Thanet Wanderers is committed to improving all aspects of equality, inclusion and diversity within the club. I'm sure most of you will have seen the re-emergence of our ladies team after an absence of nearly 20 years. The girls section is growing steadily with the help of a strong team of volunteers, coaches and sponsors. During lockdown we were one of a handful of clubs to receive large grants for a capital project to renovate our back changing rooms and showers primarily for female use. We have also been one of the first clubs in the South East to introduce a SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability) group and this has been amazingly well received. Our Schools and Community Programme has been marching forward with coaches going into local schools to introduce children to rugby that might not normally get the chance to play the game and experience the TREDs ethos (Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship) that lies at the heart of rugby. We have a mental health first aider who is available to listen and support anyone if they feel they need help.

This is only the beginning of the club's journey and we hope that everyone at the club, whether as a player, coach, parent or spectator will get behind us and help make Thanet Wanderers a welcoming place for ALL.

With this in mind we are introducing some new codes of conduct that you will see highlighted around the club and the grounds. These will explain what is considered good practice and what will not be tolerated. They will also give details of who you can contact if you have any concerns, issues or need help or support.

We live in a constantly changing society and if we want to play a positive, relevant and meaningful part in our community, both local and our rugby community, we need to adapt and be more accepting of the diverse society that we are all a part of.

Please work with us to make Thanet Wanderers a club where everyone is welcomed and made to feel part of something special.

**Safeguarding Officer**  
Thanet Wanderers RUFC



# MATCH REPORT

Sun 24th September 2023: **Thanet Wanderers Ladies v Southend Ladies**

Thanet Wanderers Ladies 1st XV got their league campaign underway on Sunday with an emphatic 57-15 victory over Southend Saints, featuring a hat trick from Rachael Austerberry.

Southend has made the long journey down buoyed by a 57-0 league victory over Gravesend last week and both team boasted strong squad of 20+ players.

Wanderers came flying out of the blocks and after a strong kick chase, gathered the ball and number 8, Milly Thurman-Newell powered over within the first 2 minutes. 5-0. That lead was more than doubled within the next couple of minutes after soft hands put full-back, Jess Anderson away on the left to touch down under the posts, converted by fly half Alex White for a 12-0 lead.

The battle in the forwards was fierce with Milly and Ella Thurman-Newell leading the way but strong defence and counter attacking by the formidable Saints forwards meant a fierce battle all day up front.

Wanderers were beginning to move defenders into uncomfortable positions meaning space was being created in the wider channels. Step forward centre, Austerberry who outpaced the covering defence twice in 5 minutes for long distance tries, both converted by White to extend the lead out to 26-0. Then not long before the break, prop forward Neave Evans got clear and scored from 40 metres out, once again converted by White.

Saints reduced that lead to 33-7 with some sweet hands sending Shelby Gilson over for a converted score to reduce the half time deficit 33-7.

Half time saw a few changes with Brioni Reah being welcomed back to the 1st XV fold and Louise Rubens returning to the club after a 6 years absence, both making a series of strong tackles and bullocking runs into the Saints defence.

Saints are a good side though, having finished 3rd in this league and their half time team chat made the world of difference as they came out and put pressure on the Thanet defence. But it was Thanet who scored first when Austerberry completed her hat trick in similar fashion before Saints got one back through Kassie Sparrow. Then poor discipline and a tiring defence let Saints in again shortly afterwards; something to work on in that area.

But it was to be Thanet who completed the scoring with late scores from captain Gee Cordell, playing in her new position at openside flanker before Milly Thurman-Newell completed her brace. White added a penalty at the end for a personal tally of 13 points from the boot.

Both sides open up their Papa John's Junior Cup campaigns next week with locals derbies. Wanderers travel to Folkestone whilst Southend make the short trip to Westcliff.

Regards,  
**Ian Lodge**  
Head Coach, Ladies Section



Photos by Ade Davies Photography

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## FIRST XV FIXTURES

# 2023 – 2024

2023

Sep 16	ASHFORD	AWAY
23	CANTERBURY 2nds	HOME
30	BECCEHAMIAN	AWAY
Oct 7	BROMLEY	AWAY
14	CRANBROOK	HOME
21	HEATHFIELD & WALDRON	AWAY
Nov 4	DARTFORDIANS	HOME
11	DEAL & BETTES	AWAY
18	DOVER	HOME
Dec 2	CHARLTON PARK	AWAY
9	CROWBOROUGH	HOME
Fri 15	CANTERBURY 2nds	AWAY (7.45pm k.o.)

2024

Jan 6	BECCEHAMIAN	HOME
13	CRANBROOK	AWAY
20	BROMLEY	HOME
27	HEATHFIELD & WALDRON	HOME
Feb 3	DARTFORDIANS	AWAY
17	DEAL & BETTES	HOME
Mar 2	DOVER	AWAY
16	CHARLTON PARK	HOME
23	CROWBOROUGH	AWAY
Apr 6	ASHFORD	HOME

Fixtures in BLOCK Type are Counties 1 Kent League dates



# WOMEN'S NC2 SOUTH EAST (EAST) LEAGUE

# 2022-23

Team	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS
<b>Thanet Wanderers Ladies</b>	<b>2</b>	2	0	0	117	20	97	0	0	<b>9</b>
Ashford Ladies	<b>2</b>	2	0	0	40	14	25	0	0	<b>9</b>
Lordswood Valkyries Ladies	<b>3</b>	1	0	2	56	84	-28	0	0	<b>8</b>
Westclif Ladies	<b>2</b>	1	0	1	111	33	78	0	0	<b>7</b>
Southend Saints Ladies	<b>2</b>	1	0	1	74	53	21	0	0	<b>7</b>
Gravesend Ladies	<b>3</b>	0	0	3	5	121	-116	0	0	<b>5</b>
Thurrock Ladies 11	<b>1</b>	1	0	0	33	30	3	0	0	<b>4</b>
Cranbrook Ladies	<b>1</b>	0	0	1	0	81	-81	0	0	<b>1</b>

## WOMEN'S NC2 SOUTH EAST (EAST) LEAGUE FIXTURES

### Sunday 17th September

Lordswood Valkyries Ladies 14-15 Ashford Ladies

Southend Saints Ladies 57-0 Gravesend Ladies

Westcliffe Ladies 30-33 Thurrock Ladies 11

### Sunday 24th September

Gravesend Ladies 5-39 Lordswood Valkyries Ladies

**Thanet Wanderers Ladies** 57-17 Southend Saints Ladies

Westcliffe Ladies 81-0 Cranbrook Ladies

### Sunday 8th October

Ashford Ladies 25-0 Gravesend Ladies

Lordswood Valkyries Ladies 3-64 **Thanet Wanderers Ladies**



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# Thanet Wanderers

Home team colours: blue, black and gold hoops

**1 Daniel Clement**

*Postition sponsored by: Peter Hawkins*

**2 Noah Dann**

*Postition sponsored by: Bill Hurley*

**3 Gulliver Goodall**

*Postition sponsored by: Ernie Blakemore*

**4 Andrew Letts**

*Postition sponsored by: Mark O' Riordan*

**5 Chris Gregory**

*Postition sponsored by: The Four Candles*

**6 Brett Scott**

*Postition sponsored by: Michelle McClean*

**7 Sam Taylor (Capt)**

*Postition sponsored by: Chris Marson*

**8 James Hamilton**

*Postition sponsored by: Dave Brown*

Head Coach

**Elliot Blackmore**

*Postition sponsored by: Colin Whiteley*

Assistant Coach

**Kieran Hopper**

*Postition sponsored by: Andy Buli*

Team Manager

**Michelle McLean**

*Postition sponsored by: Carmen Glover*

**9 Tom Walton**

*Postition sponsored by: Jeremy Ward*

**10 Nick Herbert (Capt)**

*Postition sponsored by: Ray Roby/Peter Tierney*

**11 Max Rogers**

*Postition sponsored by: Pegasus Storage Solutions*

**12 Adam Harrison**

*Postition sponsored by: John Keohane*

**13 Henry Mirams**

*Postition sponsored by: Paul Glover*

**14 Louis Marshall**

*Postition sponsored by: Terry Tuttle*

**15 Marius Thompson**

*Postition sponsored by: Geoff Redmond*

*Replacements:*

**16 Kurt Pearson**

*Postition sponsored by:*

**17 Lenny Brown**

*Postition sponsored by:*

**18 Leon Doody**

*Postition sponsored by:*

Referee

**Lewis Franks**

Touch Judge

*Postition sponsored by:*

# Cranbrook RFC

Away team colours:

**1 Miles Stockman**

**2 Tom Humphreys**

**3 David Lock**

**4 Josh Parkes**

**5 Tom Hamplett**

**6 Josh Forknall**

**7 Hamish Gillanders (Capt)**

**8 James Yeomans**

D.O.R.

**Peter Jovanovic**

Head Coach

**Chris Catt**

Assistant Coach

**Ben Williams**

**Josh Pankhurst**

Team Manager

**Not Supplied**

**9 Kaspar Bottle**

**10 Owen Chivers**

**11 Anthony Andrews**

**12 Fabian Rimmer**

**13 Jack Lewis**

**14 Wilf Sellick**

**15 Lochlan McClean**

*Replacements:*

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**17 Darrell Houghton-Judge**

**18 Guy Crouchman**



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# MATCH REPORT

Heavy Defeat for Wanderers at West Wickham.

There were eight changes to the starting line-up for Wanderers as wing forward Warren Riddell-Broomfield moved to hooker and there was a first league start for winger Will Mahoney and second-row Dennis Davies. Joint Captain Nick Herbert was back at ten after illness: Joe Carlier, Charlie Panteli and Cam Pond were on the bench.

Just a couple of minutes had been played before Thanet's outside centre, Max Rogers, sustained a suspected head injury and had to be replaced by Pond. The hosts drove over two minutes later to lead 7-0 before a Wanderers attack ended when they were penalised. After a quarter of an hour, Beccehamian scored their second try that went unconverted. Davies was shown yellow for an offside offence after twenty minutes and Panteli came on at ten with Herbert moving to inside centre for Adam Harrison who was struggling with the hard ground. A four-try blitz from the home side in the closing twenty minutes of the first half meant they went into the break with a 40-0 lead.

Some nervy defending in the first minutes of the second half presented Beccehamian with a soft try which was unconverted. Wanderers finally displayed

some of their attacking ability and put some cohesive attacks together. In the eighth minute of the half they were rewarded when full-back Andy Dolan beat several defenders on his way to touch down; Panteli converted for 45-7. Despite the efforts of joint captains Sam Taylor and Nick Herbert to build further momentum, there was to be no unlikely comeback and Beccehamian added two more tries for a 57-7 win with two further tries and a conversion.

Lots for the coaches and team to assimilate and action then in preparation for next Saturday's match which is again in the Ulez Zone against Bromley. The Hayes-based side finished in second place last season and has started this campaign with two away wins and a defeat against Beccehamian. All support for the side will be very welcome for this testing fixture. Kick-off is at 3 PM.

**SQUAD:** Danny Clement, Warren Riddell-Broomfield, Gully Goodall, Andy Letts, Dennis Davies, Lenny Brown, Sam Taylor (C), Brett Scott, Tom Walton, Nick Herbert (C), Henry Mirams, Adam Harrison, Max Rogers, Will Mahoney, Andy Dolan. **SUBS:** Joe Carlier, Charlie Panteli, Cam Pond.

**Colin Whiteley**







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Membership is not restricted to members of Thanet Wanderers Rugby Union Football Club and supporters are welcome to participate. Members will be notified by email of the winning numbers each month and monies won will be paid directly into the winners bank accounts.

Please contact either Andy Bull (07710-456225) or Kelly Smith at the clubhouse if you need further details or fill in a direct debit form available either at the clubhouse or from Kelly.

If you are already a member of the 450 Club why not double up and have twice the chance of winning!!! Now there's a thought.

The prize draws carry on throughout the year so there's always the possibility of a rugby surprise even in the cricket season.

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# MATCH REPORT

## Bromley RFC 47 – 18 Thanet Wanderers RUFC

Battling performance from the Wanderers cannot prevent a comfortable win for Bromley.

There were eight changes to the Wanderers side that lost heavily last week to Beccehamian. It was good to see Noah Dann back in his new position of hooker with Mike Morris at loose-head. Chris Gregory debuted in the second row and Louis Marshall moved from the backline to the back-row. Leon Doody made his debut at scrum-half which allowed Tom Walton to move to ten. Lewis Downer was in the centre and Ollie Greene-Taylor on the wing. Owen Read and Oskar Wallace had their first taste of first-team rugby off the bench. Congratulations to the coaches and selectors who spent so many hours assembling the side that had no practice time together but lacked nothing in collective courage and determination.

Wanderers made an enterprising start with Tom Stevens and Henry Mirams prominent in the backs and Morris carrying strongly. An early penalty from near the Bromley ten-metre line was well slotted by Tom Walton and two minutes later he doubled the lead to 6-0 following a Bromley high tackle. Two more opportunities from distance sailed close before the hosts settled and took a 7-6 lead with a nice try that was well converted. Bromley's six was shown a yellow card after twenty minutes for a high tackle and Gully Goodall was very active in leading a series of attacks that followed. Wanderers ramped up the pressure before Noah Dann backed himself and scored a well-earned try to put Wanderers ahead again 11-7. Bromley used the ball well in hand and ran in two tries before half-time when they led 19-11.

Centre Lewis Downer took a break as the second half started with prop Danny Clement reprising his centre role. Five minutes into the half, Bromley were awarded a penalty try following Andy Letts' tackle on an opponent who didn't have the ball and a yellow card followed. Owen Read made his debut in a re-jigged backline as full-back Andy Dolan went off with a knock. Bromley pulled further ahead following a good cross-kick for 33-11. Winger Ollie Greene-Taylor was now also withdrawn after sustaining injury. Oskar Wallace made his debut at six with fifteen minutes remaining and Tom Stevens took a break as Downer returned. Wanderers' pack applied strong pressure to Bromley's right flank and it was again Dann who touched down to cap a fine performance with his second try. Walton's brilliant conversion made it 33-18 but there was to be no dream ending as the hosts firmly closed the door with two more converted tries to win 47-18.

Wanderers' Captain, Sam Taylor and Brett Scott both have a wealth of experience in the back row and it was invaluable in this match. Tom Walton led the backline with assurance and Veterans Danny Clement and Andy Letts continue, week after week, to offer their knowledge and playing ability to the Wanderers cause. Chris Gregory's performance on his first-team debut was an eye-opener and it was great to see Leon Doody make the first team. Every Wanderer gave their best for the shirt today; the travelling support could not ask for more.

**Colin Whiteley**





# COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE 2022-23

Team	P	W	D	L	P/F	P/A	P/D	T/B	L/B	PTS	ADJ
Canterbury 2nds	4	4	0	0	168	66	102	4	0	20	0
Crowborough	4	3	1	0	118	76	42	2	0	16	0
Dartfordians	4	3	0	1	136	69	67	3	1	16	0
Beccehamian	4	3	0	1	126	52	74	2	1	15	0
Ashford	4	3	0	1	102	84	18	3	0	15	0
Bromley	4	3	0	1	109	72	37	2	0	14	0
Deal & Betteshanger	4	2	0	2	113	121	-8	2	1	11	0
Dover	4	1	0	3	89	109	-20	1	1	6	0
Charlton Park	4	1	0	3	76	128	-52	1	1	6	0
Heathfield & Waldron	4	0	1	3	49	83	-34	0	1	3	0
<b>Thanet Wanderers</b>	4	0	0	4	60	160	-100	0	1	1	0
Cranbrook	4	0	0	4	44	170	-126	0	1	1	0

## COUNTIES 1 KENT FIXTURES

Saturday 14th October 2023

Ashford v Deal & Betteshanger

Charlton Park v Bromley

Beccehamian v Heathfield & Waldron

Crowborough v Dover

Canterbury 2nds v Dartfordians

**Thanet Wanderers** v Cranbrook

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## RESULTS GRID COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE

Away Team ▶	Ashford	Aylesford Bulls	Beccehamian	Bromley	Charlton Park	Cranbrook	Crowborough	Deal & Betteshanger	Folkestone	Heathfield & Waldron	Old Alleynians	TWRUFC
Home Team ▼	Ashford	Aylesford Bulls	Beccehamian	Bromley	Charlton Park	Cranbrook	Crowborough	Deal & Betteshanger	Folkestone	Heathfield & Waldron	Old Alleynians	TWRUFC
Ashford											21-17	28-10
Beccehamian												57-7
Bromley		10-20										47-18
Canterbury 2nds		30-23				76-0						
Charlton Park									29-25		25-11	
Cranbrook	20-27	5-26										
Crowborough						41-19		21-19				
Dartfordians	37-26				96-10							
Deal & Betteshanger			16-19				35-53			27-20		
Dover			18-33		34-17			17-32				
Heathfield & Waldron				18-34			3-3					
TWRUFC				25-28								

## RESULTS FROM COUNTIES 1 KENT LEAGUE

### Saturday 23rd September 2023

Bromley 10-20 Beccehamian

Cranbrook 20-27 Ashford

Dartfordians 48-5 Charlton Park

Deal & Betteshanger 27-20 Dover

Heathfield & Waldron 3-3 Crowborough

**Thanet Wanderers** 25-28 Canterbury 2nds

### Saturday 30th September 2023

Ashford 21-17 Heathfield & Waldron

Beccehamian 57-7 **Thanet Wanderers**

Canterbury 2nds 76-0 Cranbrook

Charlton Park 29-25 Deal & Betteshanger

Crowborough 21-19 Dartfordians

Dover 18-33 Bromley

### Saturday 7th October 2023

Bromley 47-18 **Thanet Wanderers**

Cranbrook 5-26 Beccehamian

Dartfordians 37-26 Ashford

Deal & Betteshanger 35-53 Crowborough

Dover 34-17 Charlton Park

Heathfield & Waldron 18-34 Canterbury 2nds

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# MATCH REPORT

## Lordswood Valkyries 3 Thanet Wanderers RUFC Ladies 1st XV 64

(I'm afraid the images are not amazing this week as it was an away game so only sideline phone snapping)

Thanet Wanderers 1st XV continued their impressive form in National Challenge 2 with a resounding win in Chatham playing the Lordswood Valkyries who finished fourth last year.

The team started strongly in the same manner as their last win over Southend, this time with a try after 29 seconds. Milly Thurman Newell made the midfield break and handed off the full back before feeding Neave Evans, maybe the fastest prop in Kent ladies rugby who outpaced the Lordswood fly half to score under the posts for an early 7-0 lead.

Scrum half Maria Castellina, standing in as captain for the absent Gee Cordell brought a calm and measured approach to the side and she and her half back partner, Alex White marshalled the Thanet troops around the park all day. The aim is always to move defenders where they don't want to be and then exploit the space. And this worked well all day.

The game was being played in 4 quarters due to the unseasonal heat and before the first quarter was up, Wanderers had extended their lead with a stock bullish run from Milly Thurman Newell before Rachael Austerberry and then Amy Coster used their evasion skills to extend the lead to 24-0 at the end of the first quarter.

Into the second quarter and after Vicky Flower had taken a ball to the face, Carley Powderham went on for her 1st XV debut in the back row. And further sweet hands from White and Kirsty Burns saw Austerberry

and Coster go over for their second tries before skipper Castellina got on the scoresheet. White hit her fifth conversion of the day to make the half time lead 45-0.

Whilst the scoring was being done out wide, the damage was being done up front most notably from the Thurman Newell powerhouse trio of Milly, Ella and the returning Holly as well as Georgia Elks, Hollie Callaghan, Brioni Reah and Aisha Williams who bulldozed their opposition in defence and attack all day.

The third quarter saw the scoring slow as Lordswood shored up their defence and it was a much closer second half. Megan and Leonie Bish made good progress allowing Austerberry to complete her hat trick and Castellina got her second. Fleur Moat had come on, returning from injury and after good work from Thahseen Ali and Louise Rubens, it was Moat that made the break to feed Coster to go over for her hat trick try.

White added another two conversions for a personal haul of 14 points and the game ended 64-3 to the visitors.

It has been a strong start to the season for Wanderers with resounding wins over last season's third and fourth placed sides. Next week sees them host Cranbrook Ladies on Saturday, KO 1pm which will be a curtain raiser to the men's 1st XV who will KO at 3pm. Then after a week off, it's a return to cup

action on Sunday 29th October 2023 with a visit to Ashford, who currently sit joint top of National Challenge 2 with two wins out of two.

Ian Lodge



## RESULTS FROM OTHER CLUB GAMES

### Saturday 24th September 2023

**Thanet Wanderers** Ladies 1st XV 53-17 Southend Ladies (Women's NC2 South East (East) League)

Medway U15s 10-25 **Thanet Wanderers** U15s (Friendly)

### Saturday the 30th September

**Thanet Wanderers** 2nd XV 46-19 Aylesford Bulls 2nd XV (Kent A Rural League)

### Saturday the 7th October

**Thanet Wanderers** 2nd XV 5-45 Folkestone 2nd XV (Kent A Rural League)

### Sunday the 8th October

Lordswood Ladies 3-64 **Thanet Wanderers** Ladies (Women's NC2 South East (East) League)

**Thanet Wanderers** Colts 31-0 Sevenoaks Colts (Friendly)

**Thanet Wanderers** U14s 75-0 Whitstable U14s (Friendly)





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